

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 TRSE-00 SSO-00 EB-11 AID-20 INT-08 DRC-01

/131 W

----- 114478

P 141015Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO XECSTATE WASHDC 0229

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

VOA RHODES PRIORITY

UNCLAS KUWAIT 2964

CAIRO FOR SIMON

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM)

SUBJ: REACTION TO SIMON'S VISIT

1. KUWAIT ARABIC PRESS REPORTS JULY 14 STATEMENTS OF TWO HIGH KUWAITI OFFICIALS ON UP-COMING SIMON VISIT. MINISTER OF STATE ABDULAZIZ HUSAIN QUOTED AS SAYING "WE WELCOME THE VISIT OF ANY OFFICIAL TO KUWAIT FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON RELATIONS BETWEEN KUWAIT AND OTHER COUNTRIES."

2. HOWEVER, ARABIC DAILY AS SIYASSA REPORTS THAT ISSA AL HAMAD, DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, FORMIN, "CATEGORICALLY DENIED THAT KUWAIT HAS ASKED FOR SIMON'S VISIT." HE ADDED THAT MESSAGES RECENTLY RECEIVED FROM PRESIDENT NIXON AND SECRETARY KISSINGER EXPRESSING REGRET AT NOT BEING ABLE TO VISIT KUWAIT WERE SENT "ON AMERICA'S INITIATIVE." "KUWAIT HAS NEVER INDICATED EITHER TACITLY OR OPENLY ANY DESIRE TO INVITE ANY AMERICAN OFFICIAL TO VISIT."

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3. ABOVE STATEMENTS WERE PROMPTED BY JULY 13 EDITORIAL IN

SIYASSA ENTITLED "LET'S SHUT THE DOOR IN THE FACE OF MR SIMON."
EDITORIAL ALLEGES THAT SIMON VISITING KUWAIT AT INSISTENCE OF
KUWAIT'S MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SINCE KUWAIT WAS OFFENDED
BECAUSE U.S. PRESIDENT DID NOT VISIT. EDITORIAL CASTIGATES
"KUWAITI EAGERNESS FOR THE VISITS OF HIGH AMERICAN OFFICIALS,"
AND RECOMMENDS THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY "WHICH ONCE REJECTED
SISCO'S VISIT," DO THE SAME FOR HIS "PRO-ZIONIST COLLEAGUE"
SIMON.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES KUWAITI OFFICIALS TRYING TO MAKE
AMENDS FOR SAVAGE TONE OF EDITORIAL, YET DEMONSTRATE THAT KUWAIT
NOT TOADYING TO USA.
STOLTZFUS

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30 JUN 2005

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